



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/040,193	12/19/2001	Clifford B. Willis	SUN-P5860-NAK	9038
22200	7590	10/04/2004	EXAMINER	
PARK, VAUGHAN & FLEMING LLP 702 MARSHALL STREET SUITE 310 REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063			BUI, HUNG S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2841	

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/040,193

Applicant(s)

WILLIS ET AL.

Examiner

Hung S Bui

Art Unit

2841

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 December 2001.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 8-19 is/are rejected.  
7) ☒ Claim(s) 6 and 7 is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 8, lines 4-5, it is not clear whether the one or more computer expansion cards are intended to be the same expansion card as those recited in line 1.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-2, 4-5, 8-9, 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Roscoe et al. [US 6,498,731].

Regarding claims 1 and 5, Roscoe et al. disclose a stabilizer (figure 6) for manipulation of computer expansion card (210) within an expansion card enclosure (240) comprising:

Art Unit: 2841

- a base (204) configured for attachment to the expansion card enclosure; and
- a tab/slot (238) extension from the base for engaging a card cage (218) wherein the card cage is maintaining in a first position for manipulating an expansion card in the card cage when engaged with the tab (figure 6).

Regarding claims 2, 15 and 17-18 Roscoe et al. disclose the expansion card being operable with a computer system (abstract) coupled to the expansion card enclosure when the card cage is attached to the expansion card enclosure in a second position (figure 7).

Regarding claims 4 and 16, Roscoe et al. disclose the base being configured for removable attachment to the expansion card enclosure (column 4, lines 52-58).

Regarding claim 8, Roscoe et al. disclose an enclosure (241) for computer expansion card (210) connectable to a computer system cooperation of the expansion cards comprising:

- a removable cage (218) comprising connectors (216) for the expansion cards;

and

- a stabilizer (204).

Regarding claim 9, Roscoe et al. disclose the removable cage being stabilized by the stabilizer in a first position difference from the second position in which the expansion card is operable within the removable cage (abstract).

Regarding claim 11, Roscoe et al. disclose the stabilizer comprising a tab (238) extending from a first surface thereof wherein the tab is configured to facilitate stabilization of the removable cage between the tab and the first surface (figure 8).

Regarding claims 12-13, Roscoe et al. disclose means (254) for securing the stabilizer to the enclosure via captive screws (242).

Regarding claim 14, Roscoe et al. an enclosure being no more rack unit in height (figure 3).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 3, 10 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roscoe et al. in view of Ross et al. [US 6,570,770].

Regarding claims 3, 10 and 19, Roscoe et al. disclose everything claimed except a status indicator configured to indicate status of the expansion card enclosure.

Ross et al. disclose a removable module (26) engaging a connector (figure 2a) having an indicator light (32) on handle (28) thereof.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an indicator on the stabilizer assembly of Roscoe et al. in order to indicate the status of expansion card enclosure.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

7. Claims 6-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

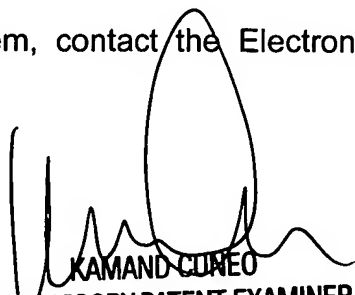
***Conclusion***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung S Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-2102. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on (571) 272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

9/21/04  
HB

  
KAMAND CUNEO  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800